How did I learn Arabic??

📖 Introduction

الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على رسوله الكريم وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين

I fully understand everything I read from the Qur'an, all praise is due to Allah. Below is a text that describes how I learned the Arabic language - in my own little room, in a small town in Bosnia, without a teacher... Read the whole story to the end.

⚠️ A note about the beginning

Arabic script and Tajweed (correct recitation of the Quran) are the foundation that must be mastered in the presence of a professional. Only after this foundation is mastered can the grammar, morphology, and vocabulary of the Arabic language be learned independently, but with serious effort and an organized approach.

📌 On the validity of knowledge without a degree

During the five years of independent study, I contacted the Arabic teacher only a few times, and that was when I was analyzing more complex sentence constructions. Maybe someone will ask the question: "How do you know that you have learned correctly? Who confirmed this knowledge for you?" If your goal is to become an Arabic language teacher - a degree is necessary. But we don't all have to be professors. All praise is due to Allah, I am able to apply my knowledge in practice – I write, read, understand, and communicate in the Arabic language.

🧠 Dua and correct intention

The most important thing is to ask Allah Almighty to ease your learning path and give you understanding of the Arabic language, as well as everything else you do in life.

🕌 Why learn Arabic?

Learning Arabic is of crucial importance for every Muslim, because it is through Arabic that we understand the source of our faith - the Qur'an and the Sunnah. It is especially important for those who want to memorise the Quran, because then they will encounter the text of the Qur'an every day, and knowing the meaning brings a deeper connection with the word of Allah.

For every Muslim, knowing the Arabic language opens the door to a true understanding of worship, ethics and the Islamic way of life. It is not only the language of words, but the language of the soul and heart. When you understand Arabic, the Qur'an becomes a living reality, and prayer, dhikr and dua take on a special dimension. That's why investing time and effort in learning Arabic is crucial for anyone who wants to deepen their faith and get closer to Allah.

📘 Recommended program – Madinah Arabic Books

The best program for learning Arabic is the so-called Madina program, specially adapted for non-Arabic speakers. Acquire four Madinah books published by LQ Toronto, who attached an excellent commentary in English to them.

If you successfully complete them:

- you will know the complete grammar of the Arabic language,
- you will learn about 2000 words from the Qur'an, the Sunnah and everyday speech,
- you will understand the Qur'an, the Sunnah and the prayer, and you will enjoy every moment of learning and worship,
- you will feel Allah sending you a message through the Qur'an - often in relation to your current situation,
- you will develop all four language skills: writing, reading, understanding and communication.

A video commentary I listened to: Michael Deonarain (@KeysToKnowledge)

I completed this program independently on a daily basis, lesson by lesson, with consistency and discipline. The video commentary for a single lesson lasts on average about half an hour, after which I would remain on the same lesson for up to five hours, searching for and learning unfamiliar words, completing exercises, and independently applying what I had learned.

⏳ How long does learning take?

It takes several years to seriously master Arabic. Set a specific time for yourself every day to study - even if it's 15 minutes - and never interrupt it.

📚 The best literature in our language

The best Arabic grammar book in the English language is precisely the commentary on Madinah books published by LQ Toronto, may Allah reward them abundantly for their efforts. All other books available in the English language are either outdated, with errors, too complicated or dry without practical examples. I say this after thoroughly reviewing all available material.

🚫 What to avoid at the beginning?

If you hear about the "Al-Arabiyah Bayna Yadayk" program, do not use it until you have passed the four Madinah books. That program requires a teacher and there is no available written material in our language to fall back on when you forget a lesson.

📗What to study after the Madina program?

I recommend the book "The Dictionary of the Holy Quran" by Abdul Mannan Omar. In this dictionary, all the words and verbs from the Qur'an are collected, based on capital works such as Lisān al-ʿArab, al-Mufradāt fī garīb al-Qur'ān, etc.

🧰 What will help you in your journey

➡️ Sincerity in intention and constant supplication to Allah

➡️ Offline apps I used:

- Almaany Arabic-English Dictionary
- Oxford Dictionary
- Arabic Verb Conjugation
- Mu'džam al-Arab

🌐 Digital addiction and contemporary challenges

I mention “offline” because I want to emphasize – although it is not the main topic of this text – that constant access to the Internet is gradually destroying us, like a slow but steady addiction. The most recognized universities in the world still use green boards and chalk. Children are becoming more passive and dull – as are their parents. We forget about worship.

Ask yourself – how did the Salaf recite the Hatma of the Quran every seven days, continuously and for years? Modern technology has its benefits, but the harm it causes – if misused – is far greater.

🎯 Practical advice: Digital Detox

He uses the Internet like a library: you go, download the necessary material, block it, and don't come back for a week or more until you've finished the downloaded material. Use applications such as Digital Detox. If you are one of those who spend hours on chatting - you will realize during detox how many real friends you have. True friendship is not based on killing time, but on true value.

📚 Recommended books for habits and focus

- Digital Minimalism
- Dopamine Detox
- Atomic Habits
- Deep Work

✈️ Language learning in Arab countries

You won't learn Arabic just because you went to an Arab country. Those who master the language there learn it through schools and educational institutions - all of which can be done at home, perhaps even more effectively. Children do not acquire the complex structure of any language "on the street" - but through the curriculum and the variety of subjects they listen to.

At home, the same twenty sentences are spoken every day. Real progress comes through systematic learning of grammar and understanding of the language.

Professor Arab often will not force grammar, which is why later you do not know how to use fatha, kasra and damma correctly. This is not just my opinion - Sheikh Abdurrahim, the author of the Madinah books, emphasized the same thing.

🛑 Final message: Stop reading and start acting

If you have read all this - immediately order Madinah books from LQ Toronto publishing. If you don't understand something, listen to the Madinah Books commentary first. There are many lessons on the internet available for Madinah Books.

📌 Note

I am not promoting these books for any worldly gain. I recommend them because they are the most well-known, most widely used, and most effective books for learning Arabic in the entire world.

🙏 I ask Allah to make it easy for you to learn Arabic.

✍️ ...

Madinah Books PDF